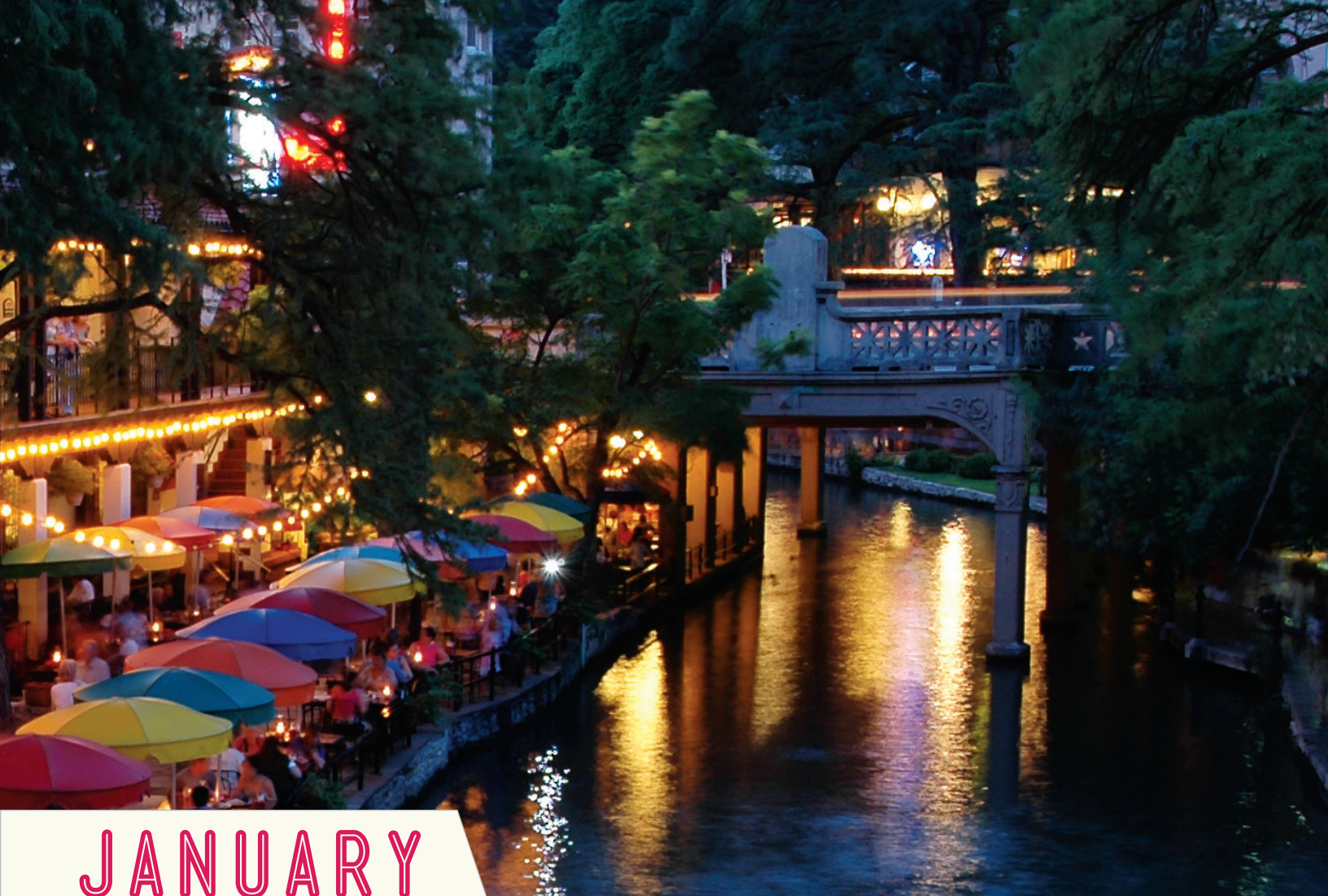


GREATER SAN ANTONIO AREA FESTIVAL GUIDE







JANUARY

ASIAN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Mouthwatering Asian treats, martial arts, dance and other customs are highlighted at the Institute of Texan Cultures.

www.texancultures.com

RIVERWALK MUD FESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

To celebrate the annual draining of San Antonio's River Walk, a festival has surfaced with a parade and selection of the Mud King and Queen for the Mud Pie Ball.

www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com

SAN ANTONIO BOAT SHOW

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Boating enthusiasts gather at the alamodome to check out the latest in watercraft and accessories.

www.sanantonioboatshow.com

FEBRUARY

SAN ANTONIO WINE FESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

To benefit KLRN public television, the Alamo Dome hosts the largest wine and cuisine tasting festival in the region.

www.sawinefest.com

BUD LIGHT MARDI GRAS RIVER PARADE & FESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

A procession of decorated river barges will transform the San Antonio River Walk into a floating Bourbon Street. Krewe of costumed revelers & live entertainment will celebrate Mardi Gras San Antonio Style! Enjoy live music on Arneson Stage from 11am to 7pm, and a festival of food, arts & crafts, activities and more at La Villita.

www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com

THRILLSEEKERS 5K

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Ever watch an obstacle race TV show or an outrageous clip on YouTube and think, "I'd like to try that!"? Tired of all those "DO NOT ATTEMPT" warnings? Here's your chance to do something about it! The 5K ThrillSeeker Experience is a one-of-a-kind course designed by actual Hollywood stunt producers. Participants have the unique opportunity to enjoy thrilling stunts featuring the world's largest inflatable water slide, the famous Zip N Slide, giant-trike rally, pole vault and 8 more exhilarating stunts. Throw in local food trucks, performers and a family-friendly kid's 1K event and there's something for everyone!

www.thrillseekers5k.com

SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW & RODEO

SAN ANTONIO, TX

The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo is a two-week extravaganza including plenty a carnival, live music, livestock shows, and a PRCA Rodeo! As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Rodeo supports Texas youth and education.

www.austinboatshow.com



MARCH

CINEFESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Each Spring some of the best in contemporary U.S. and International Latino films screen at the Guadalupe Theater in San Antonio. The eight day program boasts world, regional, and U.S. premieres culminating with the Premios Mesquite honoring the festival's stand out entries in documentary and narrative filmmaking. The grassroots history of the festival – formed in the fervent days of the Chicano Movement – gather in one place a unique mix of filmmakers, audience, activists and artists from New York to LA to Mexico City all to the West Side of San Antonio, the city's historic center for Mexican American culture, art, and social life for over a hundred years.

www.guadalupeculturalarts.org

FIESTA PRIMAVERA AT MARKET SQUARE

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Over a mid-March 3-day weekend, historic Market Square in downtown San Antonio lights up with 2 blocks full of carnival rides, food and craft vendors, live entertainment, dancing, and shopping specials.

www.sanantonio.gov

DAWN AT THE ALAMO

SAN ANTONIO, TX

A commemorative weekend-long program, including re-enactments, recognizes sacrifices made on both sides of the Alamo battle.

www.thealamo.org

TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS MARTIAL ARTS TOURNAMENT

SAN ANTONIO, TX

In mid-March, Alamo Stadium hosts a martial arts tournament, for Little Dragons aged 3 and up, and others, sponsored by Karate Plus Martial Arts Personal Development Center.

www.familypdc.com

APRIL

ZOO LA - LA

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Join us on Friday, May 9th from 7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m., for Zoo-la-la, the 19th Annual Feast with the Beasts preseted by The Boeing Company. Zoo-la-la will feature delicious cuisine from some of the best restaurants in San Antonio! Enjoy live entertainment, keeper chats, and a great Zoo Pool with fantastic prizes. Savor the one of a kind Wine Trail and taste a variety of delicious wine selections. Don't miss Zoo-la-la, it's one of the best events in town!

www.sazoo-aq.org

FIESTA SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Enjoy 11 days of festivals, parades, food, music, dances, fashion and culture. And don't forget to break a confetti-filled cascarón over someone's head!

www.fiesta-sa.org

POTEET STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

POTEET, TX

The festival has 14 areas of continuous entertainment featuring concerts with nationally known Country Western and Tejano stars, regional bands, gunslingers, carnival, various contests, and rodeo performances. There is something for the whole family!

www.strawberryfestival.com

MAY

CINCO DE MAYO

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Celebrations commemorate the Mexican Army's defeat of the invading French at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. Events include a festival with music and food at historic Market Square, concerts and other commemorations.

www.sanantonio.gov/marketsquare

FLOATING FEAST - IVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

To benefit the performing arts, the Floating Feast-ival is a gourmet progressive tasting of fine food on the river cruisers circling San Antonio's River Walk.

www.artssa.org

FEATURED EVENT:
FIESTA SAN ANTONIO





Enjoy 11 days of festivals, parades, food, music, dances, fashion and culture. And don't forget to break a confetti-filled cascarón over someone's head! Fiesta San Antonio truly has something for everyone!

FIESTA!

In 1891, a group of ladies decorated horse-drawn carriages, paraded in front of the Alamo, and pelted each other with flower blossoms. The parade was organized to honor the heroes from the battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto. Since then, it has evolved into one of this nation's premier festivals, with an economic impact of more than \$284 million for the Alamo City.

Fiesta® is the Party With a Purpose. The funds raised by official Fiesta® events provide services to San Antonio citizens throughout the year. So you could say that Fiesta® never ends!

Fiesta® really is one of America's truly great festivals. It began as a way to honor the memory of the heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto. That commemoration still takes place. But over the past century and more, Fiesta® has grown into a celebration of San Antonio's rich and diverse cultures. 2015 marks Fiesta's 124th anniversary.

EVENTS

Here are just a few of the spectacular events that are held during Fiesta San Antonio!

FIESTA ESPECIAL 5K & PARADE

Kick off Fiesta® with a 5K Run and Parade through the beautiful City of Windcrest. There is a 1-Mile Walk available. The 5K Run / 1-Mile Walk will lead out with the Fiesta Especial® Parade close behind. Bring a chair, kick back, relax and enjoy the parade (bring your own chair) after your run or walk.

MARIACHI FESTIVAL

Each night the best emerging talent from area junior high and high school students join professional groups in the spotlight aboard colorful floats cruising along the Paseo del Rio. The festival provides student musicians an opportunity to gain experience entertaining before large crowds and provides a festive atmosphere for Fiesta® revelers.

TEXAS CAVALIERS RIVER PARADE

Each year hundreds of thousands of people from all over the country line the banks of the San Antonio River to view the most unusual parade in America . . . the Texas Cavaliers River Parade! This year's parade promises an evening of family fun with live music, celebrities and lights. More than 40 festively decorated floats sponsored by local community organizations and military installations drift down the San Antonio River. Spectators party up and down the river to the accompaniment of singers, musicians and live bands. King Antonio reigns over the evening's festivities and gives a Texas-sized welcome to the enthusiastic spectators along the winding route.

FIESTA FLAMBEAU PARADE

As the evening turns to night, this parade fills with spectacular lights and sounds from an average of 150 parade entries. Many entries include local bands, dance groups and floats, in addition to international marching groups. Moreover, parade entries from across the United States have trekked to San Antonio to participate in this annual parade.

BATTLE OF THE FLOWERS PARADE

In early 1891, Mrs. James Slayden, the wife of a congressman, began a campaign suggesting that a "Flower Parade" be staged based on a parade she had observed while in Spain. Wanting to honor the fallen heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto, Mrs. Slayden concluded that April 21 would be the best date for the parade. Today, the Battle of Flowers® Parade holds the distinction of being the first celebration held in Alamo Plaza and is considered the founding event of Fiesta® San Antonio.

FIESTA MASQUERADE PARTY

The 14th Annual Fiesta® Masquerade Party, sponsored by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Psi Alpha Chapter, is a multicultural celebration in the spirit of the San Antonio Fiesta®. Attendees at the event are highly encouraged to dress in the festive outfit of their choice. Price includes food, door prizes and musical entertainment to include Zydeco, Jazz, R&B, Ol' School, Pop, Reggae, Latino/Salsa and more. Proceeds from this event go to the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation.

JUNE

CHARREADA SAN ANTONIO, TX

A Mexican rodeo with traditional dress, music and events unfolds at San Antonio Charro Ranch.

www.sazoo-aq.org

SUMMER ART & JAZZ FESTIVAL SAN ANTONIO, TX

Food, culture, music and art take the stage for a three-day celebration in Market Square.

www.sanantoniosummerartjazzfestival.com

WATERMELON THUMP LULING, TX

In 1954, Hermon Allen, a school principal, proposed the idea of a celebration to honor the growers and promote the Luling watermelon market. A contest was held to name the event and honor was won by a student, Mr. Carol Ferguson. From that time, the Thump has been held the last full weekend in June. Four fun-filled days with a parade, continuous live entertainment, world championship seed spitting contest, carnival, arts & crafts & lots more!

www.watermelonthump.com

CHISHOLM TRAIL ROUNDUP LOCKHART, TX

CTR is Lockhart's largest annual festival and tourism event, now celebrating its 43rd year. CTR also features a rodeo. Festivities begin on June 5 & 6 with the "BBQ Capital of Texas" Championship & Chili Cook-Off along with a horseshoe & softball tournament. The following Wednesday, June 10 there is a Cowboy Breakfast around a Chuck Wagon on the Courthouse square. We encourage the community to dress western on this day to celebrate the heritage of the Chisholm Trail. The fun continues on Thursday, June 11 through Saturday, June 13 when we move out to the Lockhart City Park where there is a Carnival, the Rodeo, Queen's Court Coronation, Awesome Auction, food & craft vendors, exhibits for kids, and live music on two stages. The Grand Parade on Saturday morning is a must see.

www.chisholmtrailroundup.com

JULY

CACTUS PEAR MUSIC FESTIVAL SAN ANTONIO, TX

Cactus Pear Music Festival was founded in 1996 by Stephanie Sant'Ambrogio, former concertmaster of the San Antonio Symphony for 13 years. Looking to fill the summer void of classical music in South Texas as the San Antonio Symphony went on its 3-month hiatus and symphony musicians left for music festivals far and wide, Stephanie's brainstorm came one sultry evening on the café banks of the River Walk as she sipped a signature Zuni Grill cactus pear margarita. ¡Caramba!, she exclaimed, and a music festival was born ... a festival with all the refreshing COOL and vibrancy of the color of its namesake drink. We've already booked 17 seasons of extraordinary performances. It's added up to a festivalography that includes some of the most sublime music the world has ever heard.

www.cpmf.us

SCHERTZ JUBILEE

SCHERTZ, TX

While most of the nation celebrated the 200th Anniversary of American Independence in 1976, Schertz started the celebration a year early. The first Jubilee celebration in 1975 is honored today as one South Texas' largest tribute to freedom and the men and women who serve in the armed forces! Complete with live musical entertainment, a parade, a 5K Run, a carnival, BBQ Cook-Off, food and fun, in Schertz we have something for the whole family.

www.visitschertz.com

4TH OF JULY PARADE & JUBILEE WIMBERLY, TX

Visitors to Wimberly are invited to bring a chair, grab a hat and sunglasses and plan to get comfortable watching a unique assembly alongside residents who enjoy this as another of Wimberly's annual events.

www.visitwimberly.com

AUGUST

ANNUAL FIESTA NOCHE DEL RIO SAN ANTONIO, TX

Fiesta Noche del Rio is a summer outdoor performance on the River Walk featuring the songs and dances of Mexico, Spain, Argentina and Texas. Since 1957, the show has been seen by more than one million visitors from around the world and raised more than \$2.5 million for local children's charities.

www.fiestanochesa.com

KERRVILLE WINE & MUSIC FESTIVAL KERRVILLE, TX

Each year over Labor Day Weekend, wine lovers and music enthusiasts gather to celebrate the art of songwriting and winemaking!

www.kerrville-music.com

SAN ANTONIO RESTAURANT WEEK SAN ANTONIO, TX

Restaurant Week celebrates the local food at all of our restaurants! It is a cross section of the San Antonio culinary scene That encompasses a diverse range of cuisines and includes some of our MOST time-honored restaurants and buzz-worthy newcomers. The experience Gives visitors and residents the opportunity to experience the quality, variety and hospitality That embody the San Antonio dining experience. Bon appétit San Antonio! (Reservations are not required but are a good idea! Call Directly restaurants to book reservations.)

www.culinariasa.org

SEPTEMBER

ANNUAL GUADALUPE FESTIVAL & STREET PARADE SAN ANTONIO, TX

Floats, marching bands and more are part of this family-oriented event going strong for nearly a quarter century.

www.avenidaguadalupe.org

SAN ANTONIO BEER FESTIVAL

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Join us at Maverick Park in downtown San Antonio for an afternoon of cold beer, great food, music, live art and activities and much more. Sample over 250 craft and premium beers from local 80 breweries and around the world. Plus, wine tasting, interactive games, tasty eats and live music keep the fun going all day long. The event is rain or shine, bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Food will be available for purchase.

www.sanantoniobeerfestival.com

SCHERTZFEST

SCHERTZ, TX

SchertzFest is a true celebration of our area's history. Join the Parks & Recreation Foundation for live music; craft, business and food vendors; a carnival and a sanctioned BBQ Cook-Off.

www.visitschertz.com

FIESTAS PATRIAS

SEGUIN, TX

In Texas, Mexican Americans celebrate the Mexican national holiday referred to as fiestas patrias, also called Diez y Seis de Septiembre. They began celebrating fiestas patrias to reinforce their cultural links with each other and with Mexico. They included festivities that involved special music, songs, dances, native cuisine, costumes, and homage to folk heroes. We will celebrate with dances from the different regions of Mexico.

www.tradersvillage.com

OCTOBER

DANCE WITH THE DEAD

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Dead Texans return to life at the Institute of Texan Cultures for the annual Dance with the Dead. The museum's Halloween dance and masquerade features a live band, historical costume contest featuring famous (and infamous) dead Texans, ghost tours, art slam, a Dia de los Muertos exhibit, silent auction and cash bar.

www.texancultures.com

ZOO BOO

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Zoo Boo is an exciting, safe, and non-scary Halloween event for families with children 12 years of age or younger, held on the grounds of the San Antonio Zoo. Guests are encouraged to wear non-scary costumes. Activities include trick-or-treating, face painting, entertainment, games, and a costume contest.

www.sazoo.org

WURSTFEST

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

Join us for a unique annual celebration rich in German culture and full of Texas fun! Located near the headwaters of the beautiful Comal River in New Braunfels, Texas! Here you'll enjoy good food, music, dancing, exciting carnival rides and games, German, Texan and domestic beer, special events and the finest in Alpine and Bavarian Style Entertainment. It all happens at Wurstfest!

www.wurstfest.com

NOVEMBER

EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

SAN ANTONIO, TX

San Antonio's Day of the Dead reflects Mexican cultural traditions where families welcome back departed loved ones. Creative altars are set up around town. Cemeteries, where poetry readings are popular, are decorated with marigolds, pan de muerto (dead bread) and sugar skulls.

www.visitsanantonio.com

HOLIDAY PARADE

SAN ANTONIO, TX

The day after Thanksgiving, our river parade kicks off the holidays as thousands of lights illuminate the River Walk and decorated floats wind through the river in one of the country's only nighttime river parades.

www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com

DECEMBER

A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Make Morgan's Wonderland a part of your holiday tradition. Have your picture taken with Santa, listen to Christmas carolers in the park, stop by the petting zoo, and enjoy all the rides open at night.

www.visitsanantonio.com

SIX FLAGS FIESTA TEXAS

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Experience thrilling rides and exciting family entertainment, along with tasty treats and iceless skating, at Six Flags Fiesta Texas. Watch the "Majesty of Christmas" holiday spectacular, celebrate with the Looney Tunes and meet Santa at his castle.

www.sixflags.com/fiestatexas



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